USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service

Indiana Crop & Weather Report

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 5

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Harvest of both corn and soybeans is underway, especially in central and southern counties, according to the Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Corn harvest is progressing at a near record pace established in 1987. Much needed rain fell across the northern tier of counties while many central and southern counties remained in very dry condition. Late planted soybeans will benefit from the rain, but it is too late for the more mature fields. Chopping of corn for silage was a challenge for some livestock operations as moisture content fell very rapidly to unacceptable levels. Some orchards have begun harvesting apples.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 6.4 **days suitable for field work.** Ninety-one percent of the **corn** is in **dent** stage compared with 38 percent last year and 66 percent for the 5-year average. Forty-six percent of the corn is **mature** compared to 3 percent last year and 15 percent for the 5-year average. Five percent of the corn crop is **harvested** compared to 0 percent last year and 1 percent for the 5-year average. Corn **condition** is rated 54 percent good to excellent compared with 63 percent last year at this time.

Thirty-nine percent of the **soybean** acreage is **shedding leaves** compared with 5 percent last year and 15 percent for the 5-year average. Two percent of the soybean acreage is **harvested** compared with 0 for both last year and the 5-year average. Soybean **condition** is rated 51 percent good to excellent compared with 63 percent last year.

The **third cutting** of **alfalfa hay** is 94 percent complete, compared with 81 percent last year and 88 percent for the 5-year average.

Major activities during the week included: preparing harvest equipment, harvesting seed corn and silage, cleaning grain bins, cutting and baling hay, mowing roadsides and ditches, and taking care of livestock.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition is rated 18 percent good to excellent compared with 64 percent last year. Pasture condition continued to decline as many areas received no precipitation during the week. Livestock producers continued feeding hay to help supplement pasture shortages.

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg.
	Percent			
Corn in Dent	91	77	38	66
Corn Mature	46	21	3	15
Corn Harvested	5	NA	0	1
Soybeans Shedding Lvs.	39	14	5	15
Soybeans Harvested	2	NA	0	0
Alfalfa, Third Cutting	94	87	81	88
Tobacco Harvested	40	NA	23	19

CROP CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel-lent
	Percent				
Corn	6	12	28	40	14
Soybean	7	12	30	39	12
Pasture	17	29	36	17	1

SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK

Soil Moisture	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
	Percent		
Topsoil			
Very Short	33	28	4
Short	41	45	25
Adequate	26	27	67
Surplus	0	0	4
Subsoil			
Very Short	25	21	4
Short	46	43	22
Adequate	29	36	68
Surplus	0	0	6
Days Suitable	6.4	6.9	6.5

CONTACT INFORMATION

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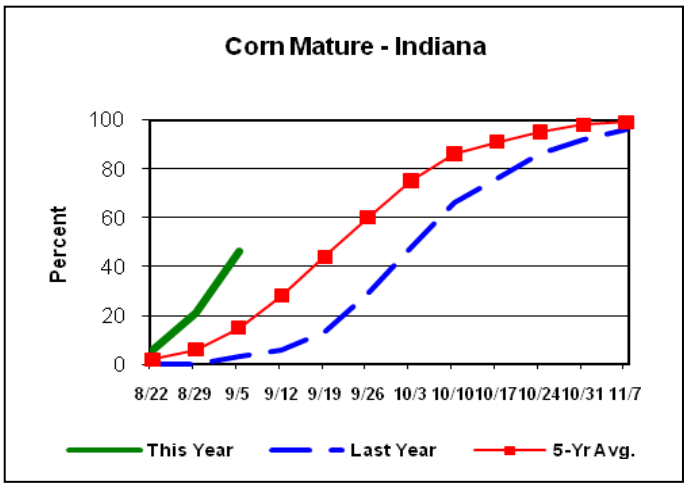
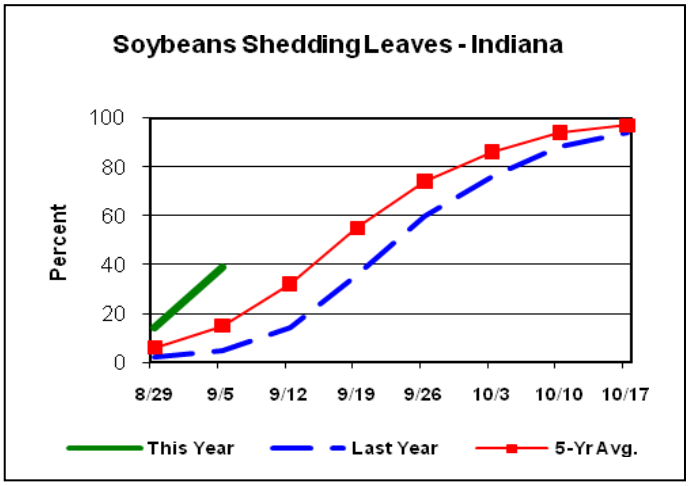
Crop Progress





Other Agricultural Comments And News

Fall Armyworm Target Late Growing Crops

Written by Christian Krupke and John Obermeyer, Purdue University. Originally published in the Pest & Crop Newsletter, Issue 23, September 3, 2010.

- This pest will target many different crops that are still green.
- Crops of various types are attacked by this caterpillar.
- Especially in southern counties, scout for this pest in late crops now.

The University of Kentucky has sent out an alert concerning the large numbers of fall armyworm moths being captured in their pheromone trapping program. Forage fields in that state have been severely damaged by larvae.

Female moths arriving from southern states will seek late-developing corn in which to lay their eggs. At this late date, with corn harvest initiated in southern counties, likely "trap" crops would be replanted corn in drowned out areas or late-market sweet corn. Initially, small larvae feed on the leaf surface, causing a "windowpane" effect, where the green tissue is removed and a transparent membrane remains. Whorl feeding by larger larvae appears as ragged-edged holes with excessive frass (caterpillar feces) being quite evident. The worms make their way into the ear and are capable of causing extensive kernel damage.

The head of the fall armyworm is dark colored with a predominant white/yellow, inverted Y-shaped suture on the front. This "Y" distinguishes the fall armyworm from other worms in the ear, specifically the corn earworm. As well, the corn earworm have been high in numbers late this season, so finding both species within the same field would not be unusual. Fall armyworm will infest multiple species of grasses and broadleaf forages. Their insatiable appetite can denude alfalfa/hay crops rapidly, especially newly established stands.

Pest managers, especially in southern Indiana counties, should monitor crops that are still green for fall armyworm presence and their damage. With the unprecedented moth numbers being captured in Kentucky, targeted crops by the larvae will be defoliated quickly. Once the larvae are about 1" in length, this pest can "march" through a crop and seemingly make it disappear overnight.

Whorl stage corn riddled by fall armyworm

Fall armyworm, note inverted Y-shaped suture on front of head

Weather Information Table

Week Ending Sunday, September 5, 2010

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
		Air Temperature			Precip.		Avg 4 in Soil Temp	April 1, 2010 through September 5, 2010				
								Precipitation			GDD Base 50°F	
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days		Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Northwest (1)												
Chalmers_5W	92	45	72	+4	1.50	2		30.02	+10.31	63	2908	+256
Francesville	93	45	72	+5	1.78	2		24.92	+5.21	60	870	+425
Valparaiso_AP_I	94	47	73	+5	0.97	2		22.76	+2.21	61	2911	+488
Wanatah	93	43	71	+5	1.01	2	77	22.93	+2.95	56	2765	+446
Winamac	93	46	73	+6	1.28	2		24.51	+4.80	63	2951	+506
North Central (2)												
Plymouth	92	43	72	+4	1.75	2		22.66	+2.77	53	2826	+261
South_Bend	92	47	73	+6	0.97	3		20.37	+1.12	60	2925	+514
Young_America	92	44	72	+3	1.15	2		29.66	+10.76	53	2894	+378
Northeast (3)												
Fort_Wayne	93	45	73	+5	0.69	1		22.52	+4.79	55	3185	+666
Kendallville	93	46	73	+6	0.99	3		21.25	+2.95	77	2821	+453
West Central (4)												
Greencastle	91	42	71	+0	0.45	2		24.57	+2.40	62	2888	+56
Perrysville	95	44	72	+4	1.54	2	81	25.92	+4.84	55	3268	+627
Spencer_Ag	93	46	72	+3	0.13	1		26.90	+4.22	57	3160	+490
Terre_Haute_AFB	93	44	73	+3	0.74	2		26.53	+5.58	65	3387	+572
W_Lafayette_6NW	94	43	72	+5	1.57	2	78	26.23	+6.58	54	3086	+582
Central (5)												
Eagle_Creek_AP	94	49	74	+5	0.09	2		22.82	+3.02	56	3478	+684
Greenfield	92	45	73	+4	0.00	0		28.44	+6.69	62	3198	+519
Indianapolis_AP	96	48	76	+6	0.03	1		20.40	+0.60	51	3593	+799
Indianapolis_SE	93	44	73	+3	0.01	1		22.28	+1.89	56	3141	+361
Tipton_Ag	93	46	72	+5	0.04	2	78	26.73	+6.77	61	2977	+544
East Central (6)												
Farmland	93	42	72	+5	0.05	1	79	24.85	+5.49	66	3007	+631
New_Castle	93	41	72	+5	0.00	0		27.64	+6.71	61	2865	+431
Southwest (7)												
Evansville	94	47	77	+4	0.00	0		13.18	-6.73	48	3921	+683
Freelandville	93	51	75	+4	0.03	1		22.27	+1.52	51	3540	+632
Shoals_8S	94	42	73	+3	0.00	0		24.06	+1.52	42	3287	+471
Stendal	91	50	76	+5	0.00	0		19.77	-2.61	43	3912	+857
Vincennes_5NE	93	48	76	+5	0.02	1	88	26.77	+6.02	55	3612	+704
South Central (8)												
Leavenworth	91	48	74	+4	0.19	3		21.47	-1.61	75	3561	+760
Oolitic	93	44	70	-1	0.00	0	82	23.79	+2.05	55	3212	+518
Tell_City	92	51	77	+4	0.00	0		19.08	-3.80	41	3796	+686
Southeast (9)												
Brookville	94	44	74	+6	0.04	2		20.78	-0.33	56	3258	+699
Greensburg	96	46	77	+8	0.00	0		22.12	+0.89	55	3507	+895
Seymour	94	44	73	+4	0.00	0		19.35	-1.42	49	3201	+510

DFN = Departure From Normal.
GDD = Growing Degree Days.
Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) in inches.
Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

For more weather information, visit www.awis.com
or call 1-888-798-9955.

Sudden Death Syndrome and Brown Stem Rot in Soybean

Written by Kiersten Wise, Purdue University. Originally published in the Pest & Crop Newsletter, Issue 23, September 3, 2010.

Some soybean fields in Indiana are ready to be harvested, but in many fields across Indiana we can still see symptoms of the disease sudden death syndrome, or SDS. This disease is widespread in Indiana and appears to be most severe in fields planted in April or early May. Yield losses due to SDS are hard to quantify and depend on the variety planted and growth stage of the crop when symptoms first appear. Yield loss is most severe when symptoms are observed in early pod fill and when plants defoliate before they are at full seed.

SDS is a disease that is best managed through preventative methods. Producers are encouraged to plant varieties that are less susceptible to SDS in fields with a history of the disease. SDS is typically more problematic in early-planted soybeans. Planting fields with a history of SDS last may reduce the risk for SDS. Foliar fungicide applications are not recommended for management of SDS.

Brown stem rot, (BSR) has also been identified in several fields in Indiana. Foliar symptoms of this disease can resemble foliar symptoms of SDS and it is important to split the lower stem of symptomatic plants to determine which fungal disease is present. BSR can cause internal stem browning, resulting in a dark brown discoloration of the pith at the lower nodes of the plant. The pith of plants affected by SDS will remain white, while the tissue below the epidermis will have brown to gray discoloration present. BSR is best managed by planting varieties with moderate resistance to the disease. However, varieties that are resistant to SDS may not be resistant to BSR.

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